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1992 JUL -7 P 2: 18

July 8, 1992

92-RF-7614

Terry A. Vaeth Manager DOE, RFO

Attn: B. K. Thatcher

OPERABLE UNIT 2 WETLANDS AND POTENTIAL SPIRANTHES DILUVIALIS HABITAT (7049) - MBA-0478-92

The following information is being provided in response to DOE, RFO's request for EG&G to determine whether the wetland sites evaluated in "the OU 2 IM/IRA are the wetland areas discussed in the Draft IM/IRA/EA and Decision Document for OU 2 dated March 2, 1992." This information is taken from two separate sources: (1) the Final Proposed Subsurface Interim Measures/Interim Remedial Action Plan/Environmental Assessment and Decision Document (PSIM/IRA/EA & DD), Operable Unit 2, dated March 20, 1992 (the information regarding wetlands contained therein is equivalent to the information found in the March 2, 1992 draft cited in the DOE request); and (2) surveys conducted during March 1992, to determine the presence or absence of wetlands and potential diluvium ladies' tresses (Spiranthes diluvialis) habitat at the OU 2 seeps.

The PSIM/IRA/EA & DD discusses well known stands of wetland vegetation located in the South Interceptor Ditch and along Woman Creek. It also discusses two "isolated stands of wetlands" southeast of IHSS 140, where ground water emerges as seeps or springs. These isolated wetlands have been identified as SW055 and SW077.

Thirteen surface water seeps or springs located in OU 2 were evaluated during the March 23rd and 31st surveys to determine if wetlands and/or potential *S. diluvialis* habitat are present. The sites are SW050 to SW053, SW055, SW057 to SW059, SW063 to SW065, SW077, and SW103. Except for SW064 and SW059, these sites are shown on Figure 2-18 of the PSIM/IRA/EA & DD. Following are the findings of the two surveys:

Wetlands

Sites SW050 to SW053, SW058, SW064, SW065, SW077, and SW103: Species indicative of wetland conditions are present.

Sites SW055 and SW059: These are disturbed sites that would probably be found to be wetlands with further evaluation.

Sites SW057 and SW063: Species are present that do not suggest wetlands.

DOCUMENT CLASSIFICATION REVIEW WAIVER PER CLASSIFICATION OFFICE

Spiranthes diluvialis habitat

Sites SW050 to SW052, SW058, and SW065: These seeps have heavy cattail growth, but suitable habitat may be found in the transition zone at the edge of the cattails.

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T. A. Vaeth July 8, 1992 92-RF-7614 Page 2

Sites SW057: This site has potential habitat but is compromised by the presence of moderate grass cover.

Sites SW053, SW055, SW059, SW063, SW064, SW077, and SW103: Competition from other species or surface disturbance make these sites unsuitable habitat.

Please contact S. M. Nesta, at X8605, or R. C. Flory, at X8680 if you have any questions.

M. B. Arndt, Acting Director Environmental Management

SCM:bmb

Orig. and 1 cc - T. A. Vaeth